



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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GOVERNOR

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June 5, 2001

Meeting Minutes: Environmental Committee Creation

A meeting was held in the Emergency Information Center on May 3, 2001 at 9:00 A.M. Nina Szlosberg with Vice Chair Nancy Dunn chaired the meeting. Attendees were as follows:

Craig Deal	Joe Blair	Don Conner
Clark Jenkins	Lanny Wilson	Margaret Klutz
Nancy Dunn	Cam McRae	Alan Thornburg
Paul Waff	Doug Galyon	Roberto Canales
Pat Ivey	Bob Andrews	Philan Medford
Roger Sheats	Kay Batey	Dale McKeel
Ashley Memory	Bill Gilmore	Janet D'Ignazio
Mike Stanley	Nina Szlosberg	

The meeting purpose was to introduce the new committee and review its charge and objectives. Handouts were provided.

Opening comments were as follows:

Ms. Szlosberg:

There was much excitement about the committee and its potential to advise and direct processes that combine transportation and environmental stewardship.

It was noted by Mr. Galyon that this is the first committee of its type and thus offered tremendous opportunity. He noted past meetings with agencies through previous board meetings.

Ms. Dunn noted that there was much need for committee education and that there would be need for understanding the balance between environmental impacts and project delivery. She suggested that legislation should be considered as a tool for the committee and wanted to be free to explore such actions to achieve the committee mission.

Mr. Jenkins raised issues about short term and long-term need for projects and questioned why the process took so long. He suggested that streamlining be a key item to be added to the mission statement.

Mr. Sheats noted upcoming events toward streamlining to include a permit process improvement program to be undertaken in May. He reemphasized the need for balance.

The Mission Statement was read:

Mission: To provide direction for the integration of environmental ethic into all DOT work.

Responsibilities:

- To recommend an environmental ethic policy to the Secretary and the Board
- To recommend additional policies to the Secretary and the Board as needed
- To advise the Secretary and the Board on methods and content for internal and external communication about our environmental ethic.

For consideration: to Make recommendation to that Board that would promote environmental streamlining of projects in an effort to reduce delivery rate of projects.

Janet D'Ignazio initiated a presentation on the planning process with a focus on project development. She provided a handout to meeting participants and noted that there were several transitions a project underwent to include:

1. Identification of need
2. Programming
3. The NEPA process
4. Design
5. Construction
6. Maintenance

Twenty-three steps were noted. The steps were categorized into actions in control by DOT, shared responsibilities with agencies and the public, and those activities not in control by the DOT. She noted that DOT does not have a shared mission with the agencies and for the system to work it requires mutual respect and trust. It was noted that the process was structured to identify problems and opportunities for projects and that the process followed was prescribed by law with the intent of resolving issues and making informed decisions. Due to time limitations, the presentation on process was suspended.

Toward adjournment the following suggestions were made:

1. Increase the time for this committee. Begin as early as possible. 8:30 was recommended (Jenkins).
2. Include process review as an action item. (Sheats)
3. Add banking as an agenda item with regard to private banking interests

The next meeting was scheduled for June 6, 2001 at 8:30.